

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 123725
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 ARA-10
IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00
INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 AID-05
SIG-03 HA-05 SCS-06 PC-01 OPR-02 /116 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:REGRIBBIN
APPROVED BY AF/C:LDJUNIOR
P - GMOOSE
S/S-O:TGMARTIN

-----108367 160038Z /62

O P 152312Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 123725

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:CG PINS MOPS CASC

SUBJECT: SHABA INCURSIONS: AMB KASONGO'S CALL ON UNDER
SECRETARY NEWSOM

1. SUMMARY. AT HIS REQUEST ZAIRIAN AMBASSADOR KASONGO
CALLED ON UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM MAY 15 TO BRIEF HIM ON
THE SITUATION IN SHABA, REQUEST US ASSISTANCE IN THE
CONFLICT, REPORT ZAIRIAN DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES AND PLANS,
AND, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S UPCOMING
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WASHINGTON VISIT, TO COMMENT UPON ZAMBIA'S FAILURE TO
FOLLOW THROUGH ON ASSURANCES THAT NO ATTACK WOULD BE
PERMITTED THROUGH ZAMBIA. THE UNDER SECRETARY CONFIRMED
TO KASONGO IMPORTANCE OF US RELATIONS WITH ZAIRE, ASSURED
HIM OF USG CONCERN FOR SHABAN SITUATION, UNDERTOOK TO
STUDY ZAIRE'S NEEDS IN ORDER TO RESPOND AS POSITIVELY AS
POSSIBLE WITH EXISTING LIMITS, AND PROMISED AN ANSWER BY

MAY 16 OR 17. -

2. FOLLOWING OPENING COURTESIES, KASONGO STATED THAT HE WAS OFFICIALLY INFORMING USG ABOUT SITUATION IN SHABA. SINCE APRIL, ZAIRIAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICE HAS BEEN AWARE THAT REBELS IN ANGOLA WERE PLANNING TO RENEW MILITARY OPERATIONS IN THE SHABA. ZAIRE HAD WARNED ZAMBIA THREE TIMES CONCERNING THIS POSSIBILITY. THE THIRD TIME BY MOBUTU HIMSELF. KAUNDA ASSURED MOBUTU THAT ALTHOUGH SOME ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS SWAPO DID UTILIZE ZAMBIAN TERRITORY, KATANGANS DID NOT. NO ATTACK ON ZAIRE WOULD BE PERMITTED ACROSS ZAMBIAN TERRITORY. KASONGO NOTED THAT REBELS HAD CLEARLY PASSED BY ZAMBIA IN ORDER NOT TO COMPROMISE ANGOLA. KASONGO CONTINUED BY NOTING THAT THE OPERATION WAS PREPARED IN HAVANA, AND ARRANGED IN ALGIERS.

3. ON THE DIPLOMATIC FRONT, KASONGO REPORTED THAT MOBUTU HAD DISPATCHED AN ITINERANT AMBASSADOR TO LONDON TO SEE KAUNDA PRIOR TO HIS ARRIVAL IN US. UN PERMREP MUKEBA WAS INFORMING UN SECGEN WALDHIEM. APPROACHES ALSO BEING MADE IN CAPITALS OF FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS, SPECIFICALLY BELGIUM AND FRANCE, AS WELL AS NUMEROUS AFRICAN COUNTRIES. MOBUTU MET SATURDAY WITH CONGOLESE AND SOVIET DIPLOMATS AT GBADOLITE TO WARN THEM NOT TO INTERVENE. KASONGO LATER CONFIRMED THAT CONGOLESE ARE USED AS CHANNEL TO ANGOLA. RECENT ZAIRIAN ATTEMPTS TO IMPROVE DIRECT CONFIDENTIAL

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CONTACTS WITH MPLA HAVE NOT BEEN PRODUCTIVE, THUS CONGOLESE CONTINUE TO ACT AS INTERMEDIARY.

4. REGARDING MILITARY SITUATION KASONGO REPORTED THAT FIGHTING CONTINUES AROUND KOLWEZI, BUT HE UNDERSTOOD MUTSHATSA RETAKEN BY FAZ.

5. AMBASSADOR STATED THAT GOZ NOTED THAT CONFLICT COINCIDED WITH TALKS SCHEDULED FOR MOBUTU PLAN AND WOULD DISTRACT ATTENTION FROM IT. HE REITERATED HIS GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE. THE AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT ASSISTANCE COULD TAKE WHATEVER FORM USG DEEMED NECESSARY -- DIRECT AID, AID THROUGH UN, OR VIA OTHER STATES.

6. THE UNDER SECRETARY CONFIRMED THE IMPORTANCE OF US/ZAIRIAN RELATIONS. HE ADDED THAT FOLLOWING PRESIDENT MOBUTU'S MAY 14 MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR CUTLER IN KINSHASA, USG BEGAN PROCESS OF CONSIDERING AN APPROPRIATE RESPONSE TO ZAIRE'S SECURITY NEEDS. HOWEVER, THERE ARE LIMITS IMPOSED BY CONGRESS TO POSSIBILITIES. NONETHELESS, USG IS INVESTIGATING OPTIONS INCLUDING REPROGRAMING, SPEEDING UP DELIVERIES, AND OTHERS. NEWSOM PROMISED

TO GIVE KASONGO A MORE DEFINITIVE RESPONSE TO ZAIRE'S
REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE ON MAY 16 OR 17, ONCE WE HAD RE-
CEIVED A MORE

PRECISE LIST OF ZAIRE'S NEEDS, PERHAPS ARISING FROM MEETING
BETWEEN OUR DEFENSE ATTACHE AND GENERAL BABIA YESTERDAY.
MR. NEWSOM CAUTIONED THAT USG COULD NOT PROMISE
EXTRAORDINARY HELP, BUT ASSURED THE AMBASSADOR
THAT ZAIRE'S REQUESTS WOULD BE CAREFULLY STUDIED.

7. IN CLOSING THE UNDER SECRETARY EXPRESSED CONCERN FOR
THE SAFETY OF THE 80 AMCITS IN KOLWEZI. HE RECOGNIZED
THE DIFFICULTIES THE CONFLICT POSES FOR FOR THE GOZ,
BUT REQUESTED RESPECT FOR THEIR SECURITY. KASONGO STATED
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THAT PRESENCE OF US CITIZENS IN THE COMBAT ZONE WAS ONE
REASON WHY US AID WAS BEING SOLICITED. THIS PROVIDES AN
EXTRA DIMENSION FOR AMERICAN INTEREST. HE NOTED THAT
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WERE HARMED BY FAZ. THIS WAS NOT TRUE OF KATANGANS.

8. COMMENT: ZAIRIANS CLEARLY CONCERNED ABOUT RELATIONS
WITH ZAMBIA. GOZ FEELS CONFUSED AND EVEN A LITTLE
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PAGE 01 STATE 123725
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-15 ISO-00 /026 R

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DRAFTED BY: AF/C:REGRIIBEN

APPROVED BY: AF/C:LDJUNIOR

P:GMOOSE

-----113863 161645Z /42

P 161535Z MAY 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO RUTAOK/AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY 0000

AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KIGALI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

USINT HAVANA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 123725

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 123725, ACTION KINSHASA LUSAKA LONDON
INFO ALGIERS LIBREVILLE BRUSSELS PARIS ROME 15 MAY:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 123725

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:CG PINS MOPS CASC

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VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIONS, INVASIONS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, RELIEF (ASSISTANCE)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE123725
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: REGRIBBIN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780205-1138
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Event:
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Review Media Identifier:
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SAS ID: 2685463
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SHABA INCURSIONS: AMB KASONGO'S CALL ON UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM
TAGS: PINS, MOPS, CASC, PDIP, OVIP, CG, US
To: KINSHASA LUSAKA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a762c19c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014